

C/FO MINI-BULLETIN

THE OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE C/FO
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Volume II, Number 1

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REORGANIZATION REPORT

As of June 25th, 1988, over 250 members (both new and old) have selected a membership class. Nine former members have resigned and requested refunds. The following information is a summary of the data collected from the optional survey portion of those 1988 Membership Confirmation forms that were returned. A total of 186 members have responded to at least some portion of this survey, as far as I know this is the greatest number of members who have ever responded to such a survey.

Except for the "Pages of Bulletin by Subject" topic where the response column lists the average number of pages requested for each topic, the response column lists the number of members selecting that response (or replying "Yes" in the case of Yes/No questions). Decimal responses are listed for the "C/FO's main goal should be" topic because some members selected more than one main goal and instead of voiding their response, I simply credited each of their multiple responses with equal fractions of a vote.

QUESTION/TOPIC	RESPONSE
1) Desire a Typeset/Offset Bulletin	< 15>
2) Pages of Bulletin Desired by Subject:	
Club Business	< 1.9>
Letters to the Editor	< 1.7>
Articles on Foreign Anime	< 6.9>
Articles on Manga	< 3.4>
Artwork	< 2.8>
Chapter/Affiliate Reports	< 1.8>
Advertising	< 1.8>
Articles on American Anime	< 1.7>
Articles on Non-Anime TV	< .9>
Other	< .8>
3) C/FO's main goal should be:	
get information to members	< 109.6>
get lots of chapters	< 10.2>
lobby for good animation	< 46.6>
Other	< 11.2>

5) Attend National Anime Con	
Not Likely	< 49>
Somewhat Likely	< 73>
Likely	< 35>
Very Likely	< 19>
Definitely	< 6>

6) Opinion of "member-centered" Reorganization	
I don't care	< 17>
Generally, I like it	< 120>
Generally, I dislike it	< 27>

8) What magazines do you read regularly?	
Anime V	< 23>
Animedia	< 52>
Animage	< 58>
Hobby Japan	< 13>
Newtype	< 50>
Animag	< 99>
Anime Journal	< 32>
Anime Zine	< 45>
Animato	< 9>

9) Own a personal computer?	< 82>
Attend chapter meeting(s) regularly	< 78>

A breakdown by state and then another by chapter status was done on those members who checked the "Generally, I dislike it" response to the question on their opinion of the C/FO's new membership oriented organization. This turned out to be very enlightening - especially the breakdown by chapter status....

Breakdown of "Dislike it" responses by state/province:

Arizona	2
California	15
Colorado	1
Florida	2
Illinois	1
New York	1
Tennessee	1

Washington	2
British Columbia	2
Other States/Provinces	0

Breakdown of "Dislike it" responses by Chapter Status:

Attend meetings of a former chapter regularly	10
Attend meetings of a current chapter regularly	12
Do not regularly attend meetings of either	5

While a breakdown of the "Generally, I like it" responses by state was not done, a breakdown by chapter status was performed.

Breakdown of "Like it" responses by Chapter Status:

Attend meetings of a former chapter regularly	5
Attend meetings of a current chapter regularly	47
Do not regularly attend meetings of either	70

A count of all members who listed themselves as regularly attending an official CIFO chapter or affiliate was also taken (the total listed above is only includes those answering at least a portion of the survey. A total of 94 (about 38%) of the CIFO's members list themselves as regularly attending an official chapter or affiliate meeting.

Conclusions: From the above data, it is possible to draw a few conclusions:

1) Only about 8% of the CIFO's membership think that having a typeset and offset-printed bulletin is worth \$36 a year. While improving the appearance of our publications is not worth an extreme price to our membership, considering that 8% of the membership were willing to pay an outrageous price for better quality publications, perhaps a less expensive method of upgrading our publications could be considered. For example, a laserprinter costs about \$2000 (about a \$10 increase in dues for one year).

2) Over 61% of the CIFO's membership want the CIFO's main goal to be getting information on anime and manga to the membership through publications. 26% think our main goal should be to lobby to get more good animation on the air in

America. Less than 6% of the membership believe that the CIFO's main goal should be to get a lot of chapters and affiliates and keep them happy.

3) About 67% of the membership are not too likely to attend a national animation convention if held outside of their state (counting "Not Likely" and "Somewhat Likely" as unlikely to attend).

4) Nearly 73% of the club's members seem to like the re-organization; while only 16% do not seem to like it. Members who do cannot or do not regularly attend the meetings of a chapter or former chapter tend to be more likely to like the re-organization than those who do attend this meetings. The great majority (a whopping 81%) of those who list themselves as disliking the re-organization, however, are members who regularly attend the meetings of a chapter or former chapter.

5) About 44% of the membership own a personal computer of some type.

CIFO CALLS FOR BOYCOTT OF ANIMAG

The CIFO was informed in late May by former CIFO member (and former staff writer for the CIFO MAGAZINE), Jane McGuire-Black, that the apology to her printed on page 52 of the third issue of ANIMAG is not acceptable. According to Jane, much of the material in the Gundam article printed in ANIMAG #1 was taken almost word-for-word from the article Jane wrote for the first issue of the CIFO magazine and was used by ANIMAG without her knowledge or permission. In her letter Jane says, "As to 'Animag', to confirm the nasty rumor, unless the editors come up with something more reasonably resembling an apology by their next issue (if any), they will be hearing from my lawyer. I have no illusions that the Gundam article is, in and of itself, a professional-quality piece of work, but it was my first, it's still about my favorite, and its usurpation bothered me as much as anything I've experienced; especially considering I point-blank warned Matt Anacleto against doing any such thing again after he 'accidentally' plagiarized the same material for the 'Baycon 87' book." In regard to the appearance of her material in the Baycon '87 book, Jane says, "One thing I would like to make plain: I hold the 'Baycon 87' committee in no way responsible for Matt's amateurish piece of glory-grapping (though what kind of recognition he expected to get for an inadequately disguised, atrociously edited ripoff is beyond me). It has been explained to my satisfaction that the circumstances surrounding the theft were in no way at the committee's

instigation...."

As this situation has existed without resolution for over SIX MONTHS and as ANIMAG has refused to respond to the C/F/O's letters on this subject, the C/F/O board of Directors approved the following resolution on the subject:

Whereas, the first issue of ANIMAG printed a plagiarized version of an article by former C/F/O member Jane McGuire that first appeared in a C/F/O publication;

Whereas, the ANIMAG staff has not properly admitted their error and apologized in print for printing this plagiarized article;

Whereas, no settlement with Jane McGuire has been reached in the six months or more that have passed since this article appeared, and apparently the ANIMAG staff is making no efforts to reach a settlement;

Be it resolved that, the Cartoon/Fantasy Organization strongly condemns the ANIMAG editorial staff for the publication of this article without the prior permission of Jane McGuire and demands that a complete apology for printing this plagiarized article be printed in ANIMAG and the said apology admit that the article was a slightly modified version of an article written by Jane McGuire and published by the C/F/O and that ANIMAG did not have permission to reprint Jane's article;

Be it further resolved that, until this apology is printed and a settlement satisfactory to Jane McGuire is made by ANIMAG, all members of the C/F/O be asked to boycott ANIMAG and those companies that advertise in ANIMAG;

Be it further resolved that, until this apology is printed in ANIMAG and a settlement satisfactory to Jane McGuire is made by ANIMAG, the C/F/O shall not participate in the proposed fan newsletter that the ANIMAG staff reportedly wishes to publish and shall encourage other fan groups to refuse to participate as well.

What all this legalese means is that the C/F/O is officially condemning the editorial staff of ANIMAG for printing an article that was taken word-for-word in many places from an article published some years ago by the C/F/O and for their failure to properly apologize to the author and the publisher for their illegal use of the material. (Plagiarism is a form of theft and it is a crime in this country.) The C/F/O is also asking

its members to refuse to purchase ANIMAG and/or any products from those companies that advertise in ANIMAG. Publications that plagiarize material do not deserve the support of any person (no matter how many color illos they use), and one supports a publication by purchasing copies of it and by purchasing items from those companies that advertise in the publication.

Members who violate this boycott will not be kicked out of the C/F/O, but please remember that if you do continue to purchase ANIMAG and products from those who advertise in ANIMAG you are sending two clear messages, one to ANIMAG (that it is perfectly alright to steal from authors - so long as they put a fancy product, you don't care who gets hurt) and one to fan authors (that while you want them to write articles that you can read in fan publications like the NEW C/F/O BULLETIN, you are not going to lift a finger to insure that their work is not stolen by others). The end result will be that ANIMAG will get away with theft and their will be nothing but club business in future C/F/O publications (because no fan author will want to risk allowing his or her material to be printed in such a publication if the group publishing it is going to allow its material to be stolen by so-called profession publications like ANIMAG).

For those of you looking for a magazine to purchase instead of ANIMAG --- try ANIME ZINE. The third issue has just been released - it's 56 pages with lots of black and white illos. The third issue of ANIME-ZINE concentrates on DIRTY PAIR and CRUSHER JOE, but also has articles on the new Gundam movie, Mighty Mouse, Wizards, Dragonair, and more. It's available for a mere TWO DOLLARS from:

ANIME-ZINE
P.O. Box 87
Rahway, NJ 07065

Subscriptions are only TEN DOLLARS for FIVE issues - they're available from the above address. (Tell them that you heard this info from the C/F/O!) Or better yet, get on your comic dealer's case and have him order copies from his distributor so that other anime fans in your area will be able to obtain copies easily. ANIME-ZINE has improved a great deal since it's first issue - if it could only come out on schedule, it'd be a great anime magazine! Try it, I think that you will like it - especially as its editorial policy is oriented towards the fans instead of the studios.

CHAIRMAN'S MUTTERINGS

ON THE RE-ORGANIZATION: Well, folks, I would say be the results of the membership confirmation and the survey taken as part of that process have clearly shown that the board's extremely controversial re-organization of the C/F/O was a step in the right direction. Approximately 73% of the C/F/O's membership returned a membership confirmation form or renewed their membership in the allotted two-month period - this compares well with the 82% of the C/F/O who sent in their address update forms in 1986 (especially when you consider that it took almost 6 months to achieve that percentage of return). The great majority of those responding have indicated that they generally like the re-organized C/F/O. And even more indicative of this is the relatively large numbers of members renewing and/or subscribing to our new monthly newsletter. So I think that it is time that the opponents of this plan admit that the membership has spoken and that the old chapter-centered C/F/O is dead and is probably going to stay that way.

If chapter members want to have any chance of changing things back toward the way they used to be, they are going to have greatly increase the percentage of active Regular, Full, and Staff members of the C/F/O who are members of chapters. To do that, they are going to have to get a lot of their fellow chapter members who are not general C/F/O members to join and take an active part in the general organization instead of ignoring it and thinking that their little chapter is the entire C/F/O. And if non-chapter members like the current member-centered organization and what to keep it, they are going to have to recruit new members and remain actively involved in the general organization themselves.

To be honest, however, I am glad this whole sorted affair is finally over. Although I really do not mind being hated by those who oppose my plans and leadership if that somehow makes them feel better - the constant grind of the last eight months has worn me down to the nub. I'm happy to move on to something else - as soon as we get the ANIMAG problem out of the way, that is.

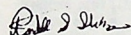
ON LOCAL GROUPS: I have heard quite a few people say that the C/F/O is now against local groups. Nothing could be further from the truth, the C/F/O is for any democratic local group that does not allow its members to copy tapes for profit! The C/F/O will be glad to work with any local group that follows those precepts. Local groups that are willing to additionally give a

slight discount to general C/F/O members and are willing to allow the C/F/O to reprint material from their publications may petition the C/F/O Board of Directors for status as a C/F/O Affiliate. At the moment, being an affiliate costs a group a mere TEN dollars a year. Affiliate groups get free advertising by being listed on the C/F/O's Chapter/Affiliate roster and receive a copy of each issue of the NEW C/F/O BULLETIN for their group's archives. Affiliates are independent groups.

Groups desiring a closer associate with the general C/F/O may become C/F/O Chapters. Chapters are actual sub-units of the C/F/O and our entitled to use the C/F/O's name as part of their own name and have some influence in the "government" of the general C/F/O. Like affiliates, chapters get advertising and free copies of the NEW C/F/O BULLETIN; however, chapters have a whole host of rules that must be followed. Chapter status is really only for groups that are interested in working on general C/F/O projects - those groups who just want to sit around and watch anime and who do not care about the general C/F/O or about the needs of C/F/O members outside their local area really have no need to be a chapter.

What has changed is the emphasis of the C/F/O - for years the general club has mainly existed to serve the needs of its chapters - even though less than 40% of the C/F/O's membership can regularly attend the meetings of a chapter. The general club has now placed serving chapters and affiliates on the back burner and is going to concentrate its efforts on serving the needs of the membership as whole - whether or not a given member can attend a chapter meeting!

Very truly yours,



Randall S. Stucky
C/F/O Chairman